IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH
AT HYDERABAD

(Special Original Jurisdiction)

WEDNESDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF MARCH
TWO THOUSAND AND FIVE

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MS JUSTICE G.ROHINI

WRIT PETITION NO : 5218 of 2005

Between:

1 T. Gangadhara Reddy S/o. Satyanarayana Reddy
Rajahmundry Mandal, E.G.District.
2 Sri. S.Lakshmana Reddy, S/o. Somasundra Reddy,
Anaparthi Mandal, East Godavari District.

..... PETITIONERS

AND

1 The Govt., of India, rep. by Secretary,
Ministry of Steel and Mines, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.
2 The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, rep. by its Secretary, Industries and
Commerce Department, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
3 The Director, Mines & Geology,
8th Floor, B.R.K.R.Buildings, Tank Bund Road,
Hyderabad.

.....RESPONDENTS

Petition under Article 226 of the constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the Affidavit filed herein the High Court may be pleased to issue an order or Writ one in the nature of writ of mandamus declaring the action of the 1st respondent in not disposing of the Revision Applications of the petitioners dt.20-09-2003 questioning orders of the second respondent in rejecting of the application of the petitioners for grant of Mining Lease for Laterite in over an extent of Acs. 200.00 (1st petitioner) and Acs.414 (2nd petitioners) in Sy.No.1, Chintaluru Village, Prathipadu Mandal, East Godavari District as arbitrary, illegal and unjust contrary to rules and pass such other order or orders.

Counsel for the Petitioners: SMT.N.SHOBA

Counsel for the Respondent No.1: Mr. Kanthi Narahari, Standing Counsel.

Counsel for the Respondent Nos. 2 and 3: Government Pleader for Industries and

Commerce

This Court at the admission stage made the following :

O R D E R:

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned standing counsel appearing for the first respondent and the learned Government Pleader appearing for the second and third respondents.

The applications of the petitioners for grant of mining lease for Laterite over an extent of Ac.200-00 and Ac.414-00 respectively in Survey No.1 of Chintalur Village, Prathipadu Mandal, East Godavari District, were rejected by the second respondent by order dated 14-10-2000. Aggrieved by the same, the petitioners preferred revisions before the first respondent under Rule 54 of Mineral Concessions Rules, 1960 r/w Section 30 of Minor Mineral (Regulation and Development Act), 1957. It is contended that though an identical revision petition filed by M/s Maheswari Minerals was disposed of, the revision petitions of the petitioners have not been decided so far. Hence, this writ petition seeking to declare the action of the first respondent in not disposing of their revision applications dated 20-09-2003 as arbitrary and illegal.

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and having heard the learned counsel for both the parties, without expressing any opinion on merits, I deem it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition with a direction to the first respondent to dispose of the revision applications preferred by the petitioners, as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

The writ petition is accordingly disposed of. No costs.

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(**G. ROHINI, J**)

Date: 16-03-2005

ghn

To

1 The Govt., of India, rep. by Secretary,
Ministry of Steel and Mines, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.
2 The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, rep. by its Secretary, Industries and
Commerce Department, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
3 The Director, Mines & Geology,
8th Floor, B.R.K.R.Buildings, Tank Bund Road,
Hyderabad.

4 Two CCs to the Government Pleader for Industries and Commerce, High

Court of A.P. Hyderabad. (O.U.T.)

5 Two CD copies.